

Rural Housing Service • Community Facilities Direct Loan Program

## Heating, Cooling, and Safety Updates for Rural Hospital

Dundy County Hospital, located in Benkelman, is a 14-bed Critical Access Hospital. Founded in 1967, the original space of the hospital was in need of updating. The heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) had outlived its useful life and was not heating or cooling efficiently. The staff also wished to have individual thermostats in patient rooms to provide ultimate comfort. Additionally, the original fire alarm system was no longer up to code for modern safety standards.



*New Roof Top HVAC for Dundy County Hospital*

USDA Rural Development provided a loan of \$1,700,000 leveraged with \$100,000 from Dundy County Hospital and \$50,000 from BWTelcom to help Dundy County Hospital to make the important needed updates.

Dundy County Hospital has been able to improve their delivery of services to patients as they have better air quality and greater patient comfort with control over the temperatures in the individual rooms. The new fire suppression system will give patients more security and time to evacuate in case of emergency. They also have better air control and quality in the operating room to help with infection control. The original part of the hospital has now been brought up-to-date with the rest of the hospital space.

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**Obligation Amount:** \$1.7 Million Loan

**Date of Obligation:** 2008 loan cost overruns in 2010

**Congressional District:** Congressman Smith, District 03; Senators Fischer and Sasse

**Partners:** Dundy County Hospital, BWTelcom

**Demographics:** Dundy County, NE

**Impact:** Providing quality healthcare to rural residents.

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